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GENERAL

1. Belgium, France favor Norway inclusion in Pact--Belgian Premier Spaak has urged most strongly to US Ambassador Kirk in Brussels that Norway be asked to join the Atlantic Pact as a charter member. Spaak feels that if this is not done, Norwegian Foreign Minister Lange may be "in gravest trouble." Spaak expressed the view that if the French were, as he understood, holding out for a similar charter membership for Italy, their position was "unfortunate and unnecessary."

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According to US Ambassador Caffery, however, French Foreign Minister Schuman has informed the British Embassy in Paris that his Government's approval of an immediate affirmative response to the Norwegian Government is unconditional and not tied to the Italian question, although the French attach the greatest importance to an early and favorable decision on Italy.

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